

VZCZCXRO3870  
RR RUEHPA  
DE RUEHOS #0062 0311630  
ZNY CCCCC ZZH  
R 311630Z JAN 07  
FM AMCONSUL LAGOS  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 8430  
INFO RUEHZK/ECOWAS COLLECTIVE  
RUEHUJA/AMEMBASSY ABUJA 8263  
RUEHCD/AMCONSUL CIUDAD JUAREZ 0086  
RUEHIT/AMCONSUL ISTANBUL 0093  
RUEHSO/AMCONSUL SAO PAULO 0107

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 000062

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

STATE FOR AF/W  
STATE FOR INR/AA  
CIUDAD JUAREZ FOR DONNA BLAIR  
ISTANBUL FOR TASHAWNA SMITH  
SAO PAULO FOR ANDREW WITHERSPOON

E.O. 12958: DECL: 01/31/2017  
TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [CASC](#) [KCRM](#) [NI](#)  
SUBJECT: SITREP #5: SSS INVOLVEMENT IN NEGOTIATIONS

REF: A. LAGOS 57  
[1](#)B. LAGOS 53  
[1](#)C. LAGOS 47

Classified By: Consul General Brian L. Browne for reasons 1.4 (b and d)

[1](#)1. (C) The Pivot-GIS Hostage Crisis Group met January 29. The Nigerian State Security Services (SSS) had been in contact with the kidnappers and reported that all three hostages were well. The Director of the SSS Alhaji Kola Adeshina, has been personally involved in the release negotiations and has provided medicine for one of the hostages, British hostage Neil Mirrlees, who suffers from diarrheal discomfort. The kidnappers claimed to be members of the Niger Delta Volunteer Force (NDVF). However, the absence of political issues in their list of demands has caused the SSS to believe the kidnappers are feigning the militant association. SSS believes this is a wholly criminal undertaking. The SSS did note the kidnappers' plan was mature and well executed. The SSS also is concerned whether the hostages were getting enough food and potable water. SSS has asked the company to obtain for additional comestibles, supplies and medication for passage to the kidnappers.

BROWNE